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City Opens White River Greenway Extension on Southside

Mayor Ballard Receives National Bicycle Leadership Award

INDIANAPOLIS - Today, Mayor Greg Ballard was recognized by the League of American Bicyclists with the Bicycle Friendly America Leadership award for his vision to transform Indianapolis into one of the nation's best cities for cyclists. League of American Bicyclists President Andy Clarke presented the award to Mayor Ballard during a ribbon cutting for a 2.1 mile extension of the White River Greenway that connects the White River State Park to Raymond Street on the Southside.

"This award is a great honor, and it's evidence that our work in recent years to boost Indy's bike culture has been successful," Mayor Ballard said. "I sincerely believe expanding our bikeways network builds the kind of city where people want to live, work, and raise families."

Indianapolis has been recognized as Bicycle Friendly Community since 2007. By 2015, the City's bikeways network will include more than 200 miles. By the end of this year, Indy will have 82 miles of bike lanes—compared with just one mile in 2007. Additionally, the City launched the Indy Bike Hub in 2011 in the east wing of the City Market, is partnering with Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc. to launch a bike share program next spring in Downtown Indianapolis, and is installing another 100 bike racks in high demand areas.

"Strong, supportive leaders are the most critical aspect to building great cities for cyclists," said Andy Clarke, President of the League of American Bicyclists. "Mayor Ballard's commitment to building safe, convenient bikeways for recreation and transportation is the reason Indy's bike culture is growing so rapidly, and cities around the country are taking notice."

The Bicycle Friendly America Leadership Award recognizes key civic and business leaders for their dedication to implementing bike friendly policies. Winners are chosen by the League's Bicycle Friendly America team, in consultation with local bicyclists and stakeholders.

Learn more about the City's bicycle program at indy.gov/bikeways.

Learn more about the Bicycle Friendly America Leadership Awards at bikeleague.org/bfa.